

Board Report
December 7, 2009
Curriculum & Technology

- Second round of HS 4Sight assessments scheduled for Tuesday and Wednesday
- Addressing our areas of improvement:
 - MWHS School Improvement process – the main goal is improving student performance
 - ME School Improvement process
 - Data Teams met again. Two months after our initial September meeting we are showing growth in almost all areas. Specific information is included in the packet and provide for you specific data sets, targeted areas and strategies.
- Plans for February 12th Professional Development – Currently, we have a variety of things planned for our February professional development day. Our focus areas will be on data teams and integrating literacy strategies. The high school will also be getting a tour of the facilities and as part of our wellness plan; staff will have the opportunity to participate in a health screening which is being coordinated by Ann Murray.
- PDE-SAS Unveiling @ Hershey – PDE is hosting a four-day workshop in order to unveil the new Standards Aligned System. SAS is intended to provide for us a Pennsylvania curriculum framework from which to base our district curriculum. Also include in this comprehensive framework will be instructional strategies, resources, assessments, and ideas for differentiation. Heather Ryder and I will be attending two of the four days on Tuesday and Wednesday.
- Alert Now:
 - Refresher training
 - Secretaries trained for attendance calls
 - Terry trained for lunch account balance calls
- Additional Technology Items:
 - Two new servers were replaced while teachers and students were away over Thanksgiving break. Those servers were the mwhserver and the proxy server, which provides for us our internet filtering. In addition to the proxy server, a new web filtering software called WebSense was installed. Teachers will likely experience some differences in sites that are blocked and/or unblocked. Please utilize SchoolDude to make all requests for blocking and unblocking sites.
 - Specific to web development there was some discussion about the complexity of developing a website from scratch. Daphne shared the importance of teachers having a website for increased home/school communication. We will likely investigate additional options for creating web pages in order to simplify the process.

- As you know, each room in the new high school will have an electronic whiteboard. On January 5, 2010 at 2:45 PM a representative from Promethean will be providing a presentation at the high school on the Promethean electronic whiteboard. On January 6, 2010 at 2:45 PM a representative from SMART Solutions Technologies will be providing a presentation at the high school on the SMARTBoard electronic whiteboard. All faculty members are invited! We will ask those present to complete a short evaluation form that will provide feedback specific to each board in the categories of Ease of Use, Curriculum/Content Resources, Technical Considerations, and Maintenance Requirements. Feedback gathered from the faculty will determine which style board is purchased and installed in the new school. In order for your feedback to count, you must commit to attending both sessions.
- 727 School Dude requests